CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for treating a hepatitis C virus infection in an individual, the method comprising administering to the individual a IFN-α, at least one immunomodulatory agent, and at least one inhibitor of an HCV enzyme, in amounts effective to achieve a sustained viral response, wherein the immunomodulatory agent is one or more of IFN-γ, pirfenidone or a pirfenidone analog, a TNF antagonist, and thymosin-α.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the inhibitor of an HCV enzyme is an HCV NS3 protease inhibitor.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the inhibitor of an HCV enzyme is an HCV NS5B RNA-dependent RNA polymerase inhibitor.

4. The method of claim 1, comprising administering an HCV NS3 protease inhibitor and an HCV NS5B RNA-dependent RNA polymerase inhibitor.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the immunomodulatory agent is IFN-γ administered subcutaneously in an amount of from about 10 μg to about 300 μg.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the immunomodulatory agent is pirfenidone or a pirfenidone analog administered orally daily in an amount of from about 400 mg to about 3600 mg.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the immunomodulatory agent is a TNF antagonist.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the TNF antagonist is selected from the group consisting of etanercept, infliximab, and adalimumab.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the immunomodulatory agent is thymosin-α administered subcutaneously twice weekly in an amount of from about 1.0 mg to about 1.6 mg.

10. The method of any of claims 1-9, wherein the method further comprises administering to the individual an effective amount of a nucleoside analog.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the nucleoside analog is ribavirin.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein the nucleoside analog is levovirin.

13. The method of claim 10, wherein the nucleoside analog is viramidine.

14. The method of claim 10, wherein the nucleoside analog is isatoribine.

15. The method of claim 10, wherein the nucleoside analog is an L-nucleoside.

16. The method of claim 1, wherein the IFN-α is monoPEG (30 kD, linear)-ylated consensus IFN-α administered at a dosing interval of every 8 days to every 14 days.

17. The method of claim 1, wherein the IFN-α is monoPEG (30 kD, linear)-ylated consensus IFN-α administered at a dosing interval of once every 7 days.

18. The method of any of claims 1-15, wherein the IFN-α is a pegylated IFN-α.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the pegylated IFN-α is a pegylated IFN-α2 or a pegylated consensus IFN-α.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the pegylated IFN-α is selected from the group consisting of peginterferon alfa-2a, peginterferon alfa-2b, and monoPEG (30 kD, linear)-ylated consensus IFN-α.

21. The method of claim 1, comprising administering effective amounts of IFN-γ and pirfenidone or a pirfenidone analog.

22. The method of claim 1, comprising administering effective amounts of IFN-γ and thymosin-α.

23. The method of claim 1, comprising administering effective amounts of IFN-γ and ribavirin.

24. The method of claim 1, comprising administering effective amounts of IFN-γ and levovirin.

25. The method of claim 1, comprising administering effective amounts of IFN-γ and viramidine.

26. The method of claim 1, comprising administering effective amounts of IFN-γ and an L-nucleoside.

27. The method of claim 1, comprising administering effective amounts of a TNF antagonist and IFN-γ.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein the TNF antagonist is selected from the group consisting of etanercept, infliximab and adalimumab.

29. The method of any of claims 21, 22, 27 or 28, wherein the method further comprises administering to the individual an effective amount of a nucleoside analog.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein the nucleoside analog is ribavirin.

31. The method of claim 29, wherein the nucleoside analog is levovirin.

32. The method of claim 29, wherein the nucleoside analog is viramidine.

33. The method of claim 29, wherein the nucleoside analog is an L-nucleoside.

34. The method of any of claims 21-33, wherein the IFN-α is a pegylated IFN-α.

35. The method of claim 34, wherein the pegylated IFN-α is a pegylated IFN-α2 or a pegylated consensus IFN-α.

36. The method of claim 34, wherein the pegylated IFN-α is selected from the group consisting of peginterferon alfa-2a, peginterferon alfa-2b and monoPEG (30 kD, linear)-ylated consensus IFN-α.

37. The method of any of claims 5-36, wherein the HCV enzyme inhibitor is an HCV NS3 protease inhibitor.

38. The method of any of claims 5-36, wherein the HCV enzyme inhibitor is an HCV NS5B RNA-dependent RNA polymerase inhibitor.